

STATE OF DELAWARE OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY

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Click It or Ticket Newsletter Article

Once again this May, the Delaware Office of Highway Safety in partnership with Delaware's law enforcement community will conduct the *Click It or Ticket* campaign. Click It or Ticket is a high visibility, public awareness and enforcement campaign designed to increase seat belt use among Delaware motorists. This highly successful highway safety initiative is conducted nationwide each year in May and involves law enforcement and safety officials nationwide.

The goal of the Click It or Ticket campaign is to save lives and reduce injuries resulting from motor vehicle crashes by increasing Delaware's seat belt usage rate. National studies show that wearing a seat belt decreases your risk of being killed or seriously injured in a crash by approximately 50%. Although seat belt use in Delaware is at an all time high, still 1 out of 7 Delawareans fail to buckle up on a consistent basis.

Click It or Ticket involves the use of Traffic Safety Checkpoints and Patrols to enforce Delaware's mandatory seat belt law. A total of 28 State, county and municipal police agencies will conduct daily enforcement activities statewide. An intense public information and education campaign will run concurrently with the enforcement blitz to inform the motoring public of the benefits of seat belt use. Delaware's law requires EVERYONE in the vehicle to buckle up. The fine for violations is \$25, plus court costs.

Delaware's 2008 goal is to increase seat belt use statewide from the current 87% to 88%. There will be additional emphasis on increasing seat belt use at night, when the risk of being killed in a crash triples, and increasing seat belt use among our youngest drivers will also be a primary focus of our efforts.

So please, protect yourself and the people you care about. Wear your seat belt. And remember...Click It or Ticket.